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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/950,073	09/12/2001	Patrick G.L Perdu	110620	1552
27074	7590	09/22/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC. P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			CHAU, MINH H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/950,073

Applicant(s)

PERDU ET AL.

Examiner

Minh H. Chau

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 13-22 and 26-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10-12 and 23-25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/30/2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1-9, 13-22, 26-28, 29 and 33** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by each of the following prior art to **Tenfelde et al.** (US # 5,873,307) and to **Salgado** (US # 5,579,087).

With respect to **claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 13, 18, 20, 21, 26 and 33, Tenfelde et al.** teach a method of processing data in a data processing system (Fig. 1) comprising a plurality of electrical devices (1-5), the data is transmitted over a common data bus (6), the electrical devices being connected to the common data bus by means of associated adapters (interface connectors that are inherent in the electrical devices), comprising identifying plural devices from the plurality of electrical devices required for performing a requested data processing (the computer 12 comprising a central controller or processor that recognizing or identifying the devices 1-5), the identified devices constituting a segment of the plurality of electrical devices; assigning a segment identifier (each of the devices 1-5 is assigned with an IP address so that the computer 12 can configure each IP address for communicate and sent data to each of the devices 1-5 individually) of each of the to the identified devices constituting the segment, and configuring the adapters of those electrical devices that have been assigned the

segment identifier in that each device of the segmented devices is able to filter out data that is destined to the respective device from the common data bus (the data sent from the computer to the respective devices 1-5 through the common data bus 6 and each devices 1-5 comprises a unique IP address that allow each devices 1-5 to receive only data that are destined to the respective device) (Fig. 1 and cols. 4-5 of **Tenfelde et al.**)

With respect to **claims 2, 14 and 27**, see Fig. 1 and col. 5 of **Tenfelde et al.** that teach the identified plural devices are comprised within a single standalone data processing device.

With respect to **claims 3 and 26**, see Fig. 1 and cols. 4-5 of **Tenfelde et al.** that teach at least one of the electrical devices constitutes a data processing management unit (12) that controls the segmentation.

With respect to **claims 14 and 28**, see Fig. 1 and col. 4, lines 55+ of **Tenfelde et al.** that teach the second plurality of print-related devices comprises a roll unwinder, a rewinder, a burster, a trimmer, a stacker, a cutter, an inserter and/or a label sticker.

With respect to **claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 13, 18, 20, 21, 26 and 33**, **Salgado** teaches a method of processing data in a data processing system (Fig. 1) comprising a plurality of electrical devices (4, 5, 11, 14), the data is transmitted over a common data bus (24), the electrical devices being connected to the common data bus by means of associated adapters (interface connectors that are inherent in the electrical devices), comprising identifying plural devices from the plurality of electrical devices required for performing a requested data processing (the network administration comprising a central processor that recognizing or identifying the devices 4, 5, 11), the identified devices constituting a

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segment of the plurality of electrical devices; assigning a segment identifier (each of the devices 4, 5, 11 is assigned with an IP address so that the central processor can configure each IP address for communicate and sent data to each of the devices 4, 5, 11) of each of the to the identified devices constituting the segment, and configuring the adapters of those electrical devices that have been assigned the segment identifier in that each device of the segmented devices is able to filter out data that is destined to the respective device from the common data bus (the data sent from the central processor to the respective devices 4, 5, 11 through the common data bus 24 and each devices 4, 5, 11 comprises a unique IP address that allow each devices 4, 5, 11 to receive only data that are destined to the respective device) (see Fig. 1 and cols. 3-7 of **Salgado**).

With respect to **claims 3 and 26**, see Fig. 1 and cols. 3-6 of **Salgado** that teach at least one of the electrical devices constitutes a data processing management unit that controls the segmentation.

With respect to **claims 4, 6, 9, 17, 19, 22, 29 and 31**, see Figs. 2-7 and cols. 4-7 of **Salgado** that teach the data processing management unit comprises a user interface or a display unit (40) and the identifying the plural devices comprises providing a graphical user interface on the display unit, the graphical user interface representing a data processing management layer adapted to perform segmentation, and displaying a plurality of indications within the graphical user interface, each indication representing a user-selectable data processing, and the data processing management unit, in response to a user indicating the requested data processing, automatically identifies the necessary devices for the requested data processing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 30 and 32** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Salgado** as applied in the rejection above, and in view of **Pepin et al.** (US # 6,151,131).

With respect to **claims 30 and 32**, **Salgado** teaches all the limitations as explained above, except for the display unit is a “touchscreen”.

Pepin et al. teach a printing system including a user interface or a display unit (52) comprising a touchscreen (62).

In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to modify the display unit of **Salgado** to include the touchscreen as taught by **Pepin et al.** for the advantage of allowing the user to select an access the information displayed on the display unit faster and easier.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. **Claims 10-12 and 23-25** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 10-12 and 23-25 have been indicated for containing allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a method of processing data in a data processing system including broadcasting an allocation request over the common data bus, the allocation request comprising at least the segment identifier and the determined unique identifiers, receiving the allocation request in the adapters having an identifier corresponding to one of the determined unique identifiers and determining whether the identified devices are segmented or not, and for each un-segmented identified device, indicating that the device may be assigned the segment identifier.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Applicant's attention is invited to the patents to Lobiondo (US # 5,287,194), Iwata (JP 11-194913) and Salgado (JP 08-063312).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh H. Chau whose telephone number is (571) 272-2156. The examiner can normally be reached on M - TH 9:30AM - 8:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MHC
September 15, 2005


MINH CHAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER